

10 January 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CIA Historical Staff

SUBJECT : CS Historical Program, Semiannual Report

Status

1. During the past six months eight papers were published in the CS Historical Paper series, which now totals 185 papers. Several additional papers are in final stages of typing or review and will be published in early 1973.

2. Some of the papers published in the early years of the CS program are not true historical studies and under more recent procedures would not be "published" but would be indexed and retained as historical research documents. Such papers were usually prepared outside, and many before the inception of the program. They were operational or program reviews, historical in nature but lacking in substance or documentation. Papers prepared during the past few years are generally more substantial from the standpoints of both length and research. The CS historical papers are for the most part oriented around programs and operations although station and division histories naturally take into account changes in organization and personnel.

3. Most of the recently submitted drafts are well enough written so that they can be published with a reasonable amount of editing and tightening up. Others, which we have delayed processing, will require extensive reorganization and rewriting, and additional research. Some may be beyond the capabilities of our staff and will need to be returned to the components for further work, or will be eliminated from the program.

4. As indicated in our semiannual report of 10 July 1972, we have urged CS components to bring to completion those papers on which a substantial amount of work has been done. The submission rate of completed drafts

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has predictably slackened, however, and some of the inactive, incomplete, or inadequately prepared papers have been dropped from the program. A total of 57 previously scheduled papers was cancelled during the past six months, leaving 56 in preparation or still scheduled to be written. Some of those in the latter category may also be dropped in the weeks ahead, either for lack of writers, or because the subject matter, in light of current guidelines, does not warrant further expenditure of manpower. Additionally, progress on some papers has been suspended because of divergent opinions within the components as to content or presentation. Some of these may also become casualties.

5. As of 31 December 1972 there were 18 CS historical papers on hand: awaiting editing or in editing (6), awaiting typing, or in final typing (12). With our present number of typists (three full time and one part time) it should be possible to publish all of these papers during calendar 1973. As will be noted in the attached tables, however, there are an additional 38 papers in other stages of preparation or scheduled to be written, some of them near completion, and some quite lengthy. At the present rate, editing, and particularly typing of papers in the current CS program will extend well into 1974.

Plans

6. The Executive Director's memorandum of 8 December 1972 on the future historical program is being reviewed with the CS components and will be discussed within the CS and in formulation of the total Agency program. CS interest in specific titles will be indicated, as well as the availability of qualified personnel to prepare or assist in the preparation of historical papers.

7. The CS historical papers now in preparation are largely a result of momentum and interest in the program generated over the past few years. With reduced budgets and personnel resources and the limited availability of annuitants, the dimensions of the future

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program will be greatly reduced. Nevertheless, we anticipate that the program will continue with a different focus and approach which will result in fewer histories but greater relevance to the needs of the CS and of the Agency as a whole.

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CS Historical Officer

Attachments:

- A. Statistical Summary of Status of Histories
- B. CS Histories Published during Reporting Period
- C. Status of CS Histories and Writers by Major Components
- D. Status of CS Histories by Component
- E. Status of CS Historical Writers

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ORIGINAL DOCUMENT MISSING PAGE(S):

No Attachment

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NOT INCLUDED